

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-04 EPG-02
/081 W

-----070038Z 088249 /63

R 061929Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5667
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 2934

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, JM, UR
SUBJECT: JAMAICAN TEAM BACK FROM MOSCOW

REF: KINGSTON 2369

1. THE FIVE MEMBER TEAM SENT TO MOSCOW UNDER THE LEADER-
SHIP OF DERRICK HEAVEN, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN
TRADE, " IN A MOVE TO BROADEN JAMAICA'S FOREIGN ECONOMIC
RELATIONS", RETURNED HOME ON MAY 26. (FOR THE COMPOSITION
OF THE TEAM, SEE REFTEL.) ACCORDING TO A NEWS RELEASE
FROM THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED AGENCY FOR PUBLIC INFOR-
MATION(API), " THE DELEGATION HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH VARIOUS
MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES OF THE SOVIET UNION ON A WIDE
RANGE OF SUBJECTS, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITIES FOR TRADE
AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS". THE RELEASE CONTINUED,
" AS A RESULT OF THESE DISCUSSIONS, A NUMBER OF AREAS
HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED FOR FURTHER STUDY WITH A VIEW
TO DEVELOPING MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN
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BOTH COUNTRIES."

2. THE RETURN OF THE TEAM HAS BEEN DEALT WITH ODDLY.
THE FIRST REPORT OF ITS ARRIVAL HOME CAME ONLY ON
JUNE 5. WHILE THIS HAS BEEN INTERPRETED BY SOME
SIMPLY AS A DESIRE ON THE PART OF THE JAMAICANS TO
AVOID MENTION OF A VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION DURING

MRS. CARTER'S MAY 30-31 STOP IN JAMAICA, WE SEE TWO OTHER POSIBILITIES, FIRST, IT IS CLEAR FROM THE API RELEASE THAT THE VISIT WAS BASICALLY INCONCLUSIVE. WE HAVE CONFIRMATION OF THIS FROM FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRY PERMANENT SECRETARY FRANK FRANCIS. WHEN QUERIED BY AN EMBASSY OFFICER ABOUT THE RESULTS OF THE VISIT TO MOSCOW AND ITS MEANING FOR JAMAICA'S ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES, FRANCIS ANSWERED WEARILY, "WE (THE JAMAICANS) WILL HAVE A LOT MORE TALKING TO DO WITH THE RUSSIANS". IT MAY SIMPLY HAVE TAKEN TEN DAYS TO WORK OUT AN APPROPRIATE PRESS STATEMENT. SECOND, SINCE THE VISIT DOES APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN INCONCLUSIVE, IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT THE JAMAICANS DID NOT WAHT TO HAVE TO REVEAL THAT FACT AT THE TIME OF MRS. CARTER'S VISIT. THE CONTRAST BETWEEN AMERICAN ACCEPTANCE OF THE MANLEY GOVERNMENT AND SOVIET NIGGARDLINESS WOULD BE PAINFUL FOR SOME JAMAICANS TO BEHOLD.
DORRANCE

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